GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:687
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
TRANSFER OF POLLUTING TECHNOLOGIES
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that developed countries are transferring highly polluting technologies to the developing countries;

(b) if so, whether such technologies are being transferred to India as well;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith name of countries transferring such technologies;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to stop such transfer;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 687 FOR 15.05.2000 REGAR TRANSFER OF POLLUTING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d)& (e) A system of environmental clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and consent mechanism under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 has been put in place to prevent environmental degradation from highly polluting technologies. This ensures that such technologies do not get transferred to India.

(f) Does not arise.

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1.0 Introduction:

The Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, 1992 seeks to:

- prevent pollution at source;
- encourage, develop and apply the best available practicable technical solutions;
- ensure that the polluter pays for the pollution and control arrangements;
- focus protection on heavily polluted areas and river stretches.

2.0 Legal Frame-Work for Pollution Control/Abatement:

The constitutional provisions are implemented through environmental protection laws of the country. There are more than 200 statutes having bearing on environmental matter in India. The pollution control acts administered by the Ministry of Environment & Forests are:

1. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;

2. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;

3. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;

4. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

5. The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991;
6. National Environmental Tribunal Act, 1998.

The above legislations are being implemented through a regulatory machinery. This consists of a Central Pollution Control Board, 25 State Pollution Control Boards and 6 Union Territory Pollution Control Committees, constituted by the Central Government and the Governments of States and UTs respectively under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.The Government has also delegated powers under Section 5 of EPA to CPCB and to the State Governments under which the regulatory agencies can take appropriate steps for prevention and control of pollution in respect of those areas which were not covered under the Water and the Air Acts.

3.0 Implementation Machinery:

For implementation of the pollution control enactments, 25 State Pollution Control Boards and 6 Pollution Control Committees in UTs were constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.The Central Pollution Control Board was also constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.The Central Pollution Control Board was constituted by the Central Government and State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees were constituted by the respective State Governments.The main functions of the Central Pollution Control Board are to advise the Central Government, coordinate the activities of SPCBs, provide technical assistance and guidance etc.The Government has delegated powers under Section 5 of EPA to CPCB and to the State Governments under which the regulatory agencies can take appropriate steps for prevention and control of pollution in respect of those areas which were not covered under the Water and Air Acts.

4.0 Various measures taken for prevention and control of industrial pollution:

4.1 Environmental Standards

Source specific effluent and emission standards in respect of major categories of industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. In addition to this, general effluent/emission standards as well as ambient air & water quality standards have also been notified.

Comprehensive Industry Documents (COINDS) for various industries, describing manufacturing process, production capacity, available pollution control technology and emission/effluent standards have been published by CPCB.

4.2 Pollution Control in 17 Categories of Highly Polluting Industries:

Out of a total number of 1551 units belonging to the 17 categories of highly polluting industries, 1320 units have already installed adequate pollution control facilities to comply with the prescribed standards. 164 units have been closed down and the remaining 67 are in the process of installing the requisite pollution control facilities. These units are being vigorously monitored by Ministry and CPCB. Status of compliance with the pollution control measures in respect of 17 categories of industries is given below:

STATEWISE SUMMARY STATUS OF THE POLLUTION CONTROL IN 17 CATEGORIES OF INDUSTRIES (as per infor available with CPCB as on March 31, 2000)

S.No.	STATE/UT	Total No. of units	Status (No. of Units) C #	Closed Defaulters # #
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173	29	142 02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	00	00	00 00
3.	Assam	15	02	11 02
4.	Bihar	62	17	35 10
5.	Goa	06	00	06 00
6.	Gujarat	177	07	168 02
7	Haryana	43	04	36 03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	09	00	09 00
9.	Jammu & kashmir	08	03	05 00
10.	Karnataka	85	09	70 06
11.	Kerala	28	06	20 02
12.	Madhya Pradesh	78	09	60 09
13.	Maharashtra	335	24	300 11
14.	Manipur	00	00	00 00
15.	Meghalaya	01	00	01 00
16.	Mizoram	00	00	00 00
17.	Nagaland	00	00	00 00
18.	Orissa	23	01	16 07
19.	Punjab	45	06	39 00
20.	Rajasthan	49	06	43 00
21.	Sikkim	01	00	01 00
22.	Tamil Nadu	119	02	117 00
23.	Tripura	00	00	00 00
24.	UT-Andaman&Nicobar	00	00	00 00
25.	UT-Chandigarh	01	00	01 00
26.	UT-Daman&Diu,Dadra & Nagar Haveli	00	00	00 00
27.	UT- Delhi	05	01	03 01
28.	UT-Lakshadweep	00	00	00 00
29.	UT-Pondicherry	06	01	05 00
30.	Uttar Pradesh	224	21	198 05
31.	West Bengal	58	16	35 07
	TOTAL	1551	164	1320 67

Having adequate facilities to comply with the standards
Not having adequate facilities to comply with the standards

4.3 Grossly Polluting industries discharging their effluents into rivers and lakes:

During 1997, the Ministry of Environment & Forests in coordination with Central Pollution Control Board had identified 851 industries alongwith the major rivers and lakes in the country which were found discharging their untreated or partially treated effluents in the fresh water bodies. The recent monitoring report received from CPCB had indicated that 551 units were found to comply with prescribed standards and another 207 industrial units have been closed. Legal action has been initiated in respect of 93 units who have not installed requisite pollution control equipment. Status of industries discharging their effluent into rivers and lakes is given in the following Table.

SUMMARY STATUS OF POLLUTION CONTROL IN GROSSLY POLLUTING INDUSTRIES DISCHARGING EFFLUENTS INTO RIVERS AND LAKES

(As on March 31, 2000)

S.No.	Name State/UT	No.of defaulters as in August,97	No.of complying industries after issuance of directions	No. of industries closed	No.of defaulters
1.	Andhra Pradesh	60	19	14	27
2.	Assam	07	00	04	03
3.	Bihar	14	10	04	00
4.	Gujarat	17	14	03	00
5.	Haryana	21	12	05	04
6.	Karnataka	20	16	02	02
7	Kerala	36	32	04	00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	02	00	00	02
9.	Maharashtra	06	01	03	02
10.	Orissa	09	03	01	05
11.	Pondicherry	04	04	00	00
12.	Punjab	18	16	00	02
13.	Tamil Nadu	366	248	114	04
14.	Uttar Pradesh	241	154	46	41
15.	West Bengal	30	22	07	01
	Total	851	551	207	93

4.4 Critically Polluted Areas:

The Central Pollution Control Board in consultation with State Pollution Control Boards has identified 24 areas in the country as critically polluted areas. These are: Bhadravati (Karnataka), Chembur (Maharashtra), Digboi (Assam), Govindgarh (Punjab), Greater Cochin (Kerala), Kala-Amb (Himachal Pradesh), Parwanoo (Himachal Pradesh), Korba (Madhya Pradesh), Manali (Tamil Nadu) North Arcot (Tamil Nadu), Pali (Rajasthan), Talcher (Orissa), Vapi (Gujarat), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Dhanbad (Bihar), Durgapur (West Bengal), Howrah (West Bengal), Jodhpur (Rajasthan), Nagda -Ratlam (Madhya Pradesh), Najafgarh Drain (Delhi) Patancheru Bollaram (Andhra Pradesh), Singrauli (Uttar Pradesh), Ankleshwar (Gujarat), Tarapur (Maharashtra).

Out of the 24 areas surveyed for pollution status, action plans for all areas have been prepared, which are at various stages of

implementation.

4.5 Common Effluent Treatment Plants for small-scale industries

A scheme on setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in cluster of small scale industries had been undertaken in the country under a World Bank Scheme on Industrial Pollution Control.Under this scheme, a subsidy of 25% of the total cost of project from the Central Government and 25% subsidy from the State Government was provided.30% was met through the financial institutions as loan at reduced rate of interest and the balance 20% is met by contributions of the members of the CETPs. Small scale industries discharging wastewater have been encouraged to subscribe to CETPs.So far, 89 CETPs have been constructed. The details of CETPs sanctioned are given in the following table:

Table: STATUS OF CETPs

Sl.No.	State	GOI Subsidy disbursed so far (Rs.in lakhs)	No.of CETPs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	132.00	3
2.	Delhi	2300.00	15
3	Gujarat	735.42	7
4	Himachal Pradesh	12.60	4
5	Haryana	11.89	1
6	Karnataka	98.84	3
7	Madhya Pradesh	96.00	3
8	Maharashtra	267.435	9
9	Punjab	19.95	4
10	Rajasthan	100.00	2
11	Tamil nadu	1934.08	36
12	Uttar Pradesh	95.75	2
	TOTAL	5803.89	89

4.6 Zoning Atlas for Siting of Industries:

The zoning atlas for siting of industries classifies the environment in a district and presents the pollution receiving potential of various sites/zones in the district and the possible alternate sites for industries through easy-to-read maps. The industrial zones are identified based on the sensitivity and the pollution receiving potential of the district. Also, environmentally sensitive zones such as National Parks, Reserved Forests, Protected Forests etc. are reflected in the Zoning Atlas.During pilot studies conducted in 1995, 61 districts covering 17 States were covered. These studies have been extended to more districts in different states under the Environmental Management Capacity Building Project of the World Bank whichwill continue during the 9th Plan. During 1995-97, 19 districts have been covered in 14 States. In the following year, it has been extended to 41 more districts in 16 States and it is proposed to cover another 49 districts during 1999-2000 in 14 states. The atlases prepared in the first phase have been validated with the concerned Government Departments/Agencies and are now being published for public use. Training programmes to educate the end user of the atlas viz. Implementing agencies like industrial departments, pollution control boards etc. are being conducted.

As a continuation of zonal atlas studies, industrial estate planning studies are being taken up at micro-level (1 : 50,000 and lower) to finally come up with probable sites for industrial estates.

4.7 Environmental Audit:

An environmental audit in the form of environmental statement has been made mandatory for the polluting units seeking consent either under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution Act), 1974 or the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1991 or both and authorisation under the Hazardous Wastes (Managing & Handling) Rules, 1989 for submission to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards for the financial year ending 31st March on or before 30th day of September every year with effect from 1993. Implementation of this scheme is expected to promote not only smooth monitoring of industrial activities but also adoption of low waste technology and minimisation of consumption of resources.

The Department of Company Affairs have been requested to include a provision in their proposed amendment of the Company`s Act, 1956. Accordingly, the Department of Company Affairs has included a new clause in the proposed amendment of the Company`s Act. As per this clause, the companies will be required to attach with the every balance sheet of the company a report by its Board of Directors regarding measures taken for environment protection.

4.7.1 Analysis, evaluation and assessment of environmental audit statements:

In order to serve environmental audit as a management tool to both the Government and the Industry, it is necessary to analyse,

evaluate and assess the information given in the environmental audit statements with respect to environmental performance of the industries. This is required to be carried out through identified institutions. The scope of the work under the proposed activity include:

- Procurement of environmental audit statements from the concerned State Pollution Control Boards;
- State-wise and Sector-wise compilation of environmental audit statements;
- Accurate data entry and validation as per the requirement of the software `Paryavaran`;
- Modification/upgradation of the existing software for analysis purpose;
- Preparation of recommended production - pollution coefficient and resource consumption guidelines for the selected industrial sectors;
- Publication of reports on sectoral environmental performance of the industries and dissemination of the information to the concerned units;
- Interaction with the concerned industry associations for follow-up on implementation of the recommendations/guidelines emerged out of the analysis of the statements on a continual basis;
- The information regarding emissions from the units could be used for PRTR (Pollution Release and Transfer Register).

4.7.2 Green rating:

Green rating is a reputation based incentive/a bench mark to assess the corporate environmental performance. The detailed environmental audit will help to arrive at a transparent rating criteria/weightage for preparing sectoral environmental performance profiles. Once the green ratings are made public on a regular basis, it would sensitise and generate interest both in the consumers and in the industry. Such a situation would provide a favourable environment for the introduction of eco-mark based products in the market.

4.8 Waste Minimisation in Small Scale Industries:

Waste minimisation has been identified as a strategic tool in environmental policy and planning. Waste minimisation is the most attractive proposition to the small scale entrepreneurs as it has built-in benefits to the entrepreneurs such as conserving resources, improving the quality of the product, enhancing productivity and profitability or even market image. Thus, waste minimisation does bring economic and environmental benefits simultaneously.

Realising the importance of waste minimisation in small and medium scale industries, the Ministry of Environment and Forests conceived the idea of waste minimisation circles (WMCs) and selected the National Productivity Council (NPC) as nodal agency to establish and run Waste Minimistion Circles (WMCs) in the country under the World Bank assisted industrial pollution prevention project.

The prime objective to establish the WMCs is to promote group efforts inincreasing the productivity and improving the environmental conditions in small and medium scale industries through adoption of waste minimistion techniques.

So far, 40 waste minimisation circles have been established in various parts of the country in the sectors of electroplating, pulp and paper, hosiery, tannery, hotels and man-made textiles. 300 waste minimisation measures have been identified by the circle members. Majority of them have already been implemented. These measures have resulted in reduction of pollution load to the extent of 15 to 30 per cent. In addition, savings to the tune of Rs. 150 lakhs per annum are expected.

Extension of such waste minimisation circles to the sectors already identified as also in the new sectors of SSIs has been launched by the Ministry through NPC.Awareness programmes about the concept of waste minimisation in small scale industries have also been planned. About 100 circles have been proposed to be added up during the 9th Five Year Plan.

4.9 Environmental Management System:

Environmental Management System (EMS) provides a systematic approach for effective environmental management.On the lines of ISO 9,000 series of quality standards, ISO 14,000 series for environment is in the offing.ISO 14,001 pertaining to EMS has already been registered as an international standard. The British Standard BS 7740 for EMS has been published in January, 1994.

These standards do not establish any absolute requirements for environmental performance. However, all of them do require that the system be designed to measure improvement in environmental performance. The thrust is to have preventive rather than curative mechanism in place.

Currently, more than 50 companies in India have already obtained certification. Others are in the pipe line for obtaining the same. Many of them have realised the benefits at the implementation stage itself. It would not be long before there is a surge in the number of companies opting for EMS certification.

5.0 Action taken for Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution - a summary:

The mitigative measures taken for prevention and control of pollution have been summerised below:-

- Steps were taken to Control of pollution from 17 categories of highly polluting industries. Out of a total of 1551 industries identified in 1991, now only 67 units are not having adequate facilities to comply with the standards;

- 24 critically polluted areas have been identified and Action Plans are prepared for the areas, which are being implemented by CPCB/SPCBs;

- River basin-wise surveys conducted to identify the polluted stretches and their sources. 14 major rivers are included under River Action Programme;

- Environmental guidelines for siting and operation of industries have been brought out;

- Environmental clearance is made compulsory for 29 categories of developmental projects involving public hearing/NGO participation as an important component of EIA process;

- Environmental audit in the form of environmental statement has been made mandatory for all the polluting industries;

- To promote pollution prevention in small scale industries, 15 waste minimisation circles have been set up in various parts of the country and about 100 such more circles are being established for adoption of clean technology, better work practices and energy conservation techniques;

- Environmental Epidemiological Studies have been initiated in the different parts of the country to find out impact of pollution on human health and suggest mitigative measures;

- For control of pollution from automobiles, stricter emission standards, introduction of unleaded petrol in major cities, installation of catalytic converters, introduction of low sulfur fuels and improvement in the fuel quality have been undertaken;

- Preparation of Zoning Atlas for siting of industries based on environmental considerations in various districts of the country has been taken up. So far, 19 such districts have been covered;

- A Scheme for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) in cluster of small scale industrial units has been taken up. About 89 CETP projects have been approved which are at various stages of implementation;

- A Network of Ambient Air (290) and Water (480) Quality Monitoring Stations has been set up throughout the country.

- Effluent and Emission Standards have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act for about 80 categories of industries. Besides, standards for ambient air and water quality have also been notified.

- For reduction of vehicular pollution, emission standards and fuel quality standards have been notified. The manufacturers are now required to mention in their advertisements that their vehicles meet the prescribed emission norms as per the notification issued by MoEF.

- Power plants (coal based) located beyond 1000 kms. from the pit-head are required to use low ash content coal (not exceeding 34%) w.e.f. 1.6.2001. Power plants located in the sensitive areas are also required to use low ash coal irrespective of their distance from the pit-head.

- Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for shifting of industries from congested areas. These include: depreciation allowance at 100%, investment allowance, Custom and Excise duty exemptions for pollution control/monitoring equipment. Excise duty exemptions on utilisation of fly-ash, phospho-gypsum etc. are also provided.

- A Status Paper on pollution in Delhi with an Action Plan for its control has been prepared and the same is being implemented. The respective State Govts. of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal had been advised to prepare Action Plans for Mumbai, Chennai & Calcutta respectively. Out of the three, Mumbai Action Plan has been evolved discussed with the concerned authorities at the Central and State level and is finalised. Govt. of West Bengal is implementing an Action Plan prepared under a World Bank projects and only Action Plan from Chennai is awaited.

- 6 Environment Authorities have been constituted under the EPA, including the National Environment Appellate Authority.

6.0 Future strategy for prevention and control of industrial pollution.

Following measures are envisaged:

- Promotion of CETPs in clusters of industrial estates.

- Promotion of pollution prevention technology/ demonstration plants for control of pollution in small scale and medium scale industries;

- Promotion of environmental audit as a management tool in identified 20 categories of polluting industrial units;

- Establishing and running waste minimisation circles (WMC) in small and medium scale enterprises;

- Promotion of environmental management system (EMS) by the industry for continual improvement of environmental performance and encouraging voluntary compliance of standards.

- A new programme on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) is envisaged to reduce emissions of pollutants from the industries.

7.0 National Programme for Control of Pollution:

For controlling pollution at national level, the Ministry intends to have a National Environmental Action Plan in place.This plan stipulates the implementation of time bound programmes entailing coordinated inter departmental strategies. The Action Plan provides time targeted programmes for abatement of pollution in the country, which if implemented in the right earnest, may lead to sustainable path of development including conservation of natural resources.

The National Programme envisages control of pollution from various sources such as industrial, domestic, vehicular, agricultural and noise. The priorities assigned for the prevention and control of pollution include the following:-

- Emphasis is being laid on the collection and treatment of waste water before its disposal on land or on surface waters. For this purpose, sewage treatment plants with proper collection and conveyance system are being promoted.

- Stress is laid on the treatment of industrial effluents. Installation of effluent treatment plants in the industrial units generating trade effluents is being insisted upon. Wherever individual ETPs are not possible Common Effluent Treatment Plants are being set up to avoid discharge of polluted water in the open.

- Promotion of waste minimisation techniques to conserve raw material by recovering solvents is encouraged which also leads to reduction of pollution at source.

- Surveillance of coastal water quality including measures to combat oil spills and land based pollution activities.

- Strengthening of air quality monitoring network for reliable measurements of pollutants in the ambient air and to prepare the air quality reports.

- As vehicular pollution is the main culprit for air pollution in the major cities, stricter emission standards for automobiles fuel quality standards etc. have been notified. Use of clean fuels such as CNG and propane is being promoted specially for plying of commercial vehicles in the major cities.

- Noise pollution control is being given due importance specially in metropolitan cities to deal with the problem of traffic noise, industrial noise, noise generated through loudspeakers, bursting of crackers, DG sets.

- Due to rise in pollution in the recent past, emphasis is being now given to protect health of the people specially the residents of the urban areas who are exposed to various pollutants. Emphasis is being laid on undertaking environmental epidemiological studies in different parts of the country.

- Mobilization of public participation and environmental awareness for abatement of pollution including involvement of NGOs has been envisaged.

- Inventorisation (quantity and characteristics) of hazardous wastes will be taken up to develop a common facility for disposal of hazardous wastes and chemicals at pre-determined sites.

- Implementation of monitoring of Bio-medical Wastes (Handling & Management) Rules, 1998 for providing necessary facilities for safe disposal of bio-medical wastes generated by hospitals, nursing homes and clinics.

- For effective implementation of various legal provisions to control environmental pollution, the Central and State Pollution Control Boards are being strengthened.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS/ANSWERS FOR LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 687 FOR 15.05.2000 REGA TRANSFER OF POLLUTING TECHNOLOGIES ASKED BY SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE.

Q. 1 What is the procedure for environmental clearance for industrial projects?

Ans. As per notification issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) 29 categories of projects including certain categories of industries are required to seek environmental clearance from MoEF. An environmental appraisal committee (EAC) consisting of experts has been constituted for this purpose.

Q. 2 Which are the polluting industries?

Ans. Based on pollution potential, 17 categories of highly polluting industries have been identified. These include:

(i) Thermal Power Plant,

(ii) Cement,
(iii) Aluminium,
(iv) Caustic Soda,
(v) Copper,
(vi) Distillery,
(vii) Dyes & Dye Intermediate,
(viii) Fertilizer, (ix) Iron and Steel, (x) Leather, (xi) Pesticide, (xii) Petro-Chemical, (xiii) Pharmaceutical, (xiv) Pulp and Paper, (xv) Oil Refinery, (xvi) sugar and (xvii) Zinc.

Q. 3 Is there any ban imposed on transfer of polluting technologies?

Ans. Restrictions have been imposed on transfer of import of hazardous wastes and a procedure has been set up whereby the proposals of import of hazardous wastes are examined on case to case basis.

Q. 4 What steps have been taken against the polluting industries and what is the out come?

Ans. 1. Under 17 categories of highly polluting units, 1551 units have been identified and out of these 1320 units have set up the requisite pollution control facilities. 164 units are closed and 67 units defaulters. Actions have been taken against the defaulting units.

2. Grossly polluting industries discharging waste water into river and lakes have been identified and 851 units were identified as defaulters in 1997. After taking the actions, the number of defaulting units has come down to 93 and actions have been taken against these units.

Q. 5 What are the measures taken to promote clean technologies?

Ans. Waste minimisation has been identified as a strategic tool in environmental policy and planning. Waste Minimisation Circles have been set up under the World Bank assisted industrial pollution prevention project. So far, 40 circles have been established.
The Ministry has also formulated a scheme on promotion of cleaner technologies particularly in small scale. The Ministry also launched a scheme for Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for clusters of small scale industries.

Q. 6 What is environmental auditing?

Ans. Environmental audit is an exercise of self-assessment to minimise the generation of waste and pollution potential.

Q. 7 What are the aims of environmental auditing?

Ans. Environmental auditing aims to:

- Waste prevention and reduction;
- Assessing compliance with regulatory requirements;
- Facilitating control of environmental practices by a company`s management; and
- Placing environmental information in the public domain.

Q. 8 What activities include in environmental auditing?

Ans. The audit procedures include:

- pre-audit activities;
- activities at the site; and
- post audit activities.

Q. 9 What are Minimal National Standards?

Ans. The industry specific effluent standards, evolved at national level, are termed as Minimal National Standards (MINAS).This approach envisages treatment of all wastes to certain minimum standards i.e. MINAS.

Q.10 Whether State Boards can relax the standards set by Central Board?

Ans. State Boards are not expected to relax the MINAS.But, depending on local conditions, the State Board can prescribe stricter standards if the situation so demands.

Q.11 What problems are associated for containing pollution in small scale units and how these can be tackled?

Ans. Due to small size of small scale units, setting up of pollution control measures become economically unavoidable. Minimum size of such units should be specified so that implementation of pollution control measures become feasible.

Q. 12 What is Consent mechanism at State level?

Ans. The projects which are cleared from pollution angle at the State level, consentmechanism has been put in place under the Water Act and the Air Act. The industries are required to take consent to establish from the respective State Pollution ControlBoard at the time of establishment of an unit. Thereafter, consent to operate would also be required to be taken from the State Pollution Control Board before commissioning of the industrial unit.